

time-line: ancient egypt

reference material for teachers

5000 - 3100 B.C.

PREDYNASTIC PERIOD

- ▼ Small farming villages develop along the banks of the Nile

3100 - 2755 B.C.

ARCHAIC PERIOD

- ▼ King Narmer unites Egyptian settlements under his rule
- ▼ System of writing (hieroglyphs) develops
- ▼ Mummification begins; linked to belief in many gods and life after death

2755 - 2230 B.C.

THE OLD KINGDOM

- ▼ Kings buried in pyramid-tombs
- ▼ Centralization of the state

2230 - 2040 B.C.

FIRST INTERMEDIATE PERIOD

- ▼ Leaders of provincial cities struggle for power with the pharaoh

2040 - 1786 B.C.

MIDDLE KINGDOM

- ▼ Classical period of ancient Egyptian literature
- ▼ The Egyptians prosper and build up their army

1786 - 1567 B.C.

SECOND INTERMEDIATE PERIOD

- ▼ Foreign rulers take over, styling themselves "kings of Egypt"
- ▼ Horse and chariot introduced from Palestine

1567 - 1085 B.C.

NEW KINGDOM

- ▼ Thebes (today's Luxor) rises as power center and residence of most kings
- ▼ Pharaohs buried in rock-cut tombs in Valley of the Kings
- ▼ Queen Hatshepsut rules Egypt
- ▼ King Tutankhamun comes to the throne at nine years old

1085 - 712 B.C.

THIRD INTERMEDIATE PERIOD

- ▼ Period of political instability; Egypt breaks into rival dynasties
- ▼ Nubian kings invade, defeat rival dynasties, and unify Egypt

712 - 332 B.C.

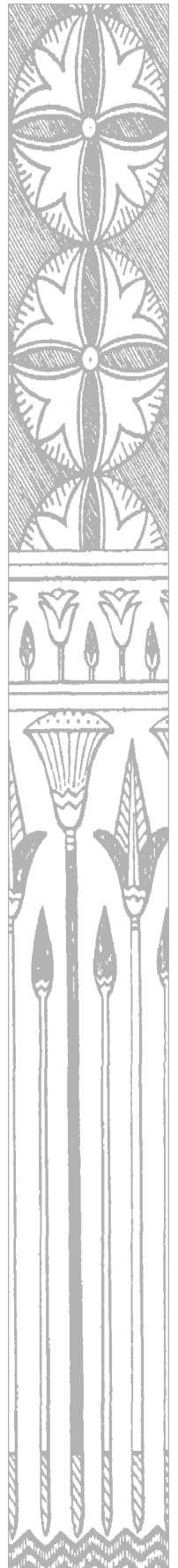
LATE PERIOD

- ▼ Assyrians attack Egypt, expel Nubians
- ▼ Persians invade and occupy Egypt

332 - 30 B.C.

PTOLEMAIC (MACEDONIAN/GREEK) PERIOD

- ▼ Alexander the Great conquers Egypt for the Macedonians/Greeks
- ▼ Cleopatra VII, last Ptolemaic queen, dies (in 30 B.C.); Egypt becomes part of Roman Empire



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